



CESAR CHAVEZ DAY OF SERVICE AND LEARNING

"We can choose

*to use our lives
for others to bring
about a better and
more just world
for our children."*

*Cesar E.
Chavez*

On August 20, 2000, Governor Gray Davis enacted landmark legislation creating the Cesar Chavez Day of Service and Learning as a way to commemorate the legacy and values of Cesar E. Chavez. Observed every year on March 31st, Cesar E. Chavez's birthday, this holiday is about instilling the spirit of service in all Californians, with a special emphasis on service learning activities that involve K – 12 students, which also serve to educate them about the work and values that motivated this great civil rights leader.

The Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism (GO SERV) is charged with making nearly \$5 million in grants to qualifying AmeriCorps programs, California Conservation Corps, local conservation corps, Learn and Serve America and the National Senior Service Corps that work to involve schools and the surrounding community in meaningful service.

QUICK FACTS

- GO SERV supports **more than 60** Chavez projects throughout the state.
- GO SERV funding for Cesar Chavez Day programs totals nearly **\$5 million**.

More than 60 programs throughout California participate in this service-learning program, engaging more than half a million students in service learning activities, not only around the holiday but also on an ongoing basis. Service activities include:.

- harvesting farm fields and donating produce to area homeless shelters;
- community gardens at schools and community centers where students build gardens, and donate their harvest to homeless shelters;
- neighborhood beautification projects where students reclaim public spaces by creating mosaics and murals that reflect the life and values of Cesar E. Chavez, plant trees, clean off graffiti, and remove trash;
- service clubs where youth are trained as leaders through after school programs to create their own service projects—visiting seniors in residential facilities, tutoring and mentoring children, teaching people how to read, and helping the homeless.

In addition to schools, hundreds of community partners are involved including: colleges and universities, nonprofit organizations, labor unions, churches, civic associations, city halls, fire and police departments, libraries and zoos.

For more information on funded projects and their activities, please check our website at www.goserv.ca.gov or call GO SERV at 916/323-7646.

SERVE YOUR NEIGHBOR. SERVE YOUR NATION. FIND OUT HOW AT WWW.GOSERV.CA.GOV

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